

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PANAMA 02091 120521Z

11

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 /068 W

----- 108695

R 112001Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3565

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 2091

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PN, ELAB

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY CHIEF GIVES RECEPTION ON RETURN FROM
MOSCOW EXILE

1. ON APRIL 4 THE COMMUNIST
PARTIDO DEL PUEBLO (PDP) HOSTED
A RECEPTION HONORING ITS SECRETARY GENERAL, RUBEN DARIO SOUZA,
ON HIS RETURN LAST MONTH FROM A SEVEN MONTH EXILE IN THE
SOVIET UNION. SOUZA SPOKE BEFORE A PACKED HOUSE OF ABOUT 500,
BOASTING OF THE STRENGTH OF THE PANAMANIAN COMMUNISTS AND
OS THEIR INFLUENCE WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT. HE PROMISED A CON-
TINUATION OF THE POLICY OF ALL-OUT SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT.
SOUZA HAD BEEN REFUSED PERMISSION TO RETURN TO PANAMA FROM
A TRIP ABROAD LAST SEPTEMBER WHEN THE GOP RETALIATED AGAINST
THE PDP FOR THE LATTER'S ATTEMPTS TO DISPUTE CONTROL OF THE
NATIONAL STUDENT FEDERATION, THE FEP. (SEE PANAMA A-34).

2. THE RECEPTION WAS HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE
NEWSPAPER REPORTERS' UNION. THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE AUDIENCE
CONSISTED OF PARTY WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNIST-
CONTROLLED CNTP NATIONAL LABOR CONFEDERATION. SOME
LEADERS OF THE GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED NATIONAL CONFEDERA-
TION OF PEASANT SETTLEMENTS (CONAC) WERE ALSO PRESENT.
ONLY ONE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL HAS BEEN
IDENTIFIED AS ATTENDING; MIGUEL PICARD AMI, AN ADVISOR TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PANAMA 02091 120521Z

THE NATIONAL LEGISLATION COMMISSION. THE SECRETARY GENERAL

OF THE AIFLD-SUPPORTED CTRP NATIONAL LABOR CONFEDERATION
ALSO ATTENDED; NO MEMBERS OF THE RIVAL CHRISTIAN CIT
CONFEDERATION WERE SIGHTED.

7. LEFT-LEANING COLUMIST, CAMILO O. PEREZ, IN GOVERNMENT-
CONTROLLED CRITICA APRIL 10 MENTIONED HIS OWN ATTENDANCE AT
THE RECEPTION AND WROTE THAT IT WAS NO LONGER TABU TO ATTEND
ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY THE PDP. PEREZ, WHO IS A LEADER
OF THE RUSSIAN-CONTROLLED WORLD PEACE COUNCIL, DECLARED THAT
SUCH MATTERS AS AN INDIVIDUAL'S IDEOLOGICAL AFFILIATION WERE
NOT SO IMPORTANT AS HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE PANAMANIAN
PROCESS OF LIBERATION.

4. COMMENTS: THE RETURN OF SOUZA FROM EXILE REFLECTS THE
GOVERNMENT'S BELIEF THAT THE PDP IS WELL UNDER CONTROL. SOUZA
HIMSELF WILL BE HOSTAGE TO THE PARTY'S CONTINUING GOOD
BEHAVIOR. HIS BROTHER CLETO, IN GOP'S EYES PERHAPS A MORE
DANGEROUS AND MORE AGGRESSIVE ACTIVIST THAN THE SECRETARY
GENERAL, REMAINS IN EXILE IN PERU WITHOUT ANY SIGNS OF AN
EARLY RETURN TO PANAMA.
JORDEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMUNISTS, PARTY LEADERS, EXILES, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PANAMA02091
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750128-0196
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750458/aaaacbrg.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMUNIST PARTY CHIEF GIVES RECEPTION ON RETURN FROM MOSCOW EXILE
TAGS: PINT, ELAB, PN, (DARIO SOUZA, RUBIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006